

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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RONALD LEE ALLEN,

Plaintiff,

v.

CLARK COUNTY DETENTION CENTER,  
et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:10-cv-00857-MMD-GWF

ORDER

(Plf's Motion to Reopen Aforementioned  
Civil Rights Case – dkt. no. 321)

On January 25, 2013, the Court entered an Order granting the parties' stipulation to dismiss this case. (Dkt. no. 320.) That stipulation stated that "[a]s a result of the settlement reached between the above-mentioned parties, all claims brought by Plaintiff in this case have been settled and this case may be dismissed in its entirety and closed." (*Id.*) In his Motion to Reopen, Plaintiff argues that Defendants have breached the settlement agreement and asks the Court to reopen proceedings so that it may address the breach and amend the settlement agreement. (See dkt. no. 321.) Plaintiff is incarcerated and appearing *pro se*.


In *Kokkonen v. Guardian Life Ins. Co.*, 511 U.S. 375, 379–81 (1994), the Supreme Court held that federal courts do not have inherent or ancillary jurisdiction to enforce a settlement agreement simply because the subject of that settlement was a federal lawsuit. When the initial action is dismissed, federal jurisdiction terminates. *Id.* A motion to enforce the settlement agreement is a separate contract dispute requiring its own independent basis for jurisdiction. *Id.* Therefore, "absent an express retention by a

1 district court of jurisdiction to enforce a settlement agreement reached in a case pending  
2 before it, such 'enforcement of the settlement agreement is for the state courts, unless  
3 there is some independent basis for federal jurisdiction.'" *Camacho v. City of San Luis*,  
4 359 F. App'x 794, 798 (9th Cir. 2009) (quoting *Kokkonen*, 511 U.S. at 381-82).

5 Pursuant to the Court's Order on the parties' stipulation, all of Plaintiff's claims  
6 were dismissed with prejudice, and this case was dismissed in its entirety and closed.  
7 (See dkt. no. 320.) The parties did not ask the Court to retain jurisdiction to enforce the  
8 settlement agreement. Consequently, because the Court did not retain ancillary  
9 jurisdiction, the Court does not have jurisdiction to address Defendants' alleged breach  
10 of the settlement agreement. Plaintiff's motion must therefore be denied. This Order  
11 does not affect Plaintiff's ability to raise this matter in state court.

12 It is hereby ordered that Plaintiff's Motion to Reopen Aforementioned Civil Rights  
13 Case (dkt. no. 321) is denied.

14 ENTERED THIS 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2014.

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18 MIRANDA M. DU  
19 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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